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FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI J.L.P.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Boel, et al.

Serial No.

Divisional of Serial No. 09/435,524.

Filed

:

Herewith

For

ISOLATED NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE ENCODING

PEPTIDES WHICH FORM COMPLEXES WITH MHC

MOLECULES HLA-CW*1601 AND USES THEREOF

Group Art Unit

To be assigned.

Examiner

To be assigned.

February 20, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination please amend this application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Change the current title to -- Method For Determining BAGE Expression -.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please make the following changes without prejudice:

Page 1, lines 8-12:

Please delete the section entitled "Cross Reference to Related Applications" on page 1 lines 8-12 and replace with the following:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/435,524, filed November 8, 1999, now US Patent No, which is a divisional of copending application Serial No. 09/038,328 filed on March 11, 1998, which is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/573,186 filed on February 16, 1995, which is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/389,360 filed on February 16, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/196,630 filed February 15, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5683,886 which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/079,110 filed June 17, 1993, now U.S. Patent No. 5,571,711. All related applications and patents cited are herein incorporated by reference.

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Page 3, line 3: after "938,334," add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,405,940 --

Line 22: after "1993" add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,629,166 --

Line 28: after "herein" add -- now abandoned --

Page 4, line 10: after "1993" add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,620,886 --

Line 16: after "1993" add -- "now U.S. Patent No. 5,571,711 --

Line 24: after "1994" add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,683,886 --

Page 5, line 1: after "08/196,630" add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,683,886 --

Page 14, line 7: change "cones" to -- clones -, --

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IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice.

Add claims 22-25 which follow:

Claim 22: A method for screening for possibility of a disorder characterized by expression of a BAGE tumor rejection antigen precursor encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, comprising contacting a sample with an agent specific for said BAGE tumor rejection antigen precursor, and determining binding between said agent and said BAGE tumor rejection antigen precursor as a determination of possibility of said disorder.

Claim 23: The method of claim 22, wherein said agent is an antibody.

Claim 24: The method of claim 22, wherein said disorder is cancer

Claim 25: The method of claim 22, wherein said cancer is melanoma.

REMARKS

Entry of the amendment is requested.

Claims 22-25 represent subject matter that was withdrawn from consideration following a restriction requirement in the parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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